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MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA STAFF MEETING, 18 JULY 1955

PRESENT: [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] gave [REDACTED] a copy of a Ph.D. dissertation on "The Geopolitical Importance of the North Pole Area" with a request that Mr. Seeley evaluate the significance of the study.

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2. The group discussed the recommendations made by [REDACTED] in his recent report on a trip to Maxwell Field, and decisions were made as to the appropriate action required by the various recommendations. [REDACTED] suggested that in the case of future reports such as this, the Division Chief should attach a cover memorandum analyzing the recommendations from the view point of divisional plans and policies and necessary action. [REDACTED] commented that individuals should be free to make any recommendations that they consider desirable, and he emphasized that necessary action on recommendations must be taken.

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3. The group discussed the desirability of developing a paper on the Geographic Area work program for FY 1956. This would cover the outlook for our entire work program, not just the research program. It was suggested that much of the information could be best presented in graphic form and also that the categories should be based on activities rather than specific projects. [REDACTED] suggested using the Ch/G monthly report as a medium for presenting a monthly summary of progress in the Geographic Area, keyed to the estimate for FY 1956. [REDACTED] suggested that graphics should emphasize the FY 1956 estimate but have an inset showing the actual situation in FY 1955. [REDACTED] will prepare a memorandum outlining the material to be covered in this statement of the work program for FY 1956.

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4. Possibility of turning over Geographic Area records of man-hours to the OCD machine records unit was discussed. This would permit special analyses of man-hours records by simply getting a tab run. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] thought that an analysis of their divisional man-hours records could be more quickly accomplished in their own office than by a tab run.

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5. [REDACTED] reported that the meeting of the Intelligence Ground Photography group at Fort Holabird last Thursday was very successful.

DOCUMENT NO. 10
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. [REDACTED]
DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: [REDACTED]
AUTH. HR TO 2
DATE: 1-11-75 REVIEWER: 372044

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6. [REDACTED] reported that the MM-50 camera will be delivered tomorrow and that a meeting will be held to arrange for turning it over to the proper people.

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7. [REDACTED] exhibited a copy of a 1:500,000 "USAF Experimental Low Level Navigation Chart", prepared by ACIC, which shows in magenta the installations visible in low-level high-speed flight.

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8. [REDACTED] reported that DD/P is now preparing to coordinate with D/GP on photography requirements.

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9. [REDACTED] gave [REDACTED] a publication on the specifications for a National Atlas of the United States, to be routed to interested people in the Geographic Area.

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10. [REDACTED] reported that tomorrow will probably be a moving day for D/GG, with several Branches moving around to different rooms.

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11. [REDACTED] commented that the Alaska Air Command has requested 25 additional copies of the Chukotsk Peninsula Study, to be used in training courses.

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12. An article on the Economic Geography of Opium has been discussed by [REDACTED] has been asked to try to get pertinent data from the Bureau of Narcotics. [REDACTED] commented that the sensitivity of data may prevent the project from being initiated.

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14. [REDACTED] mentioned a recent briefing by [REDACTED] concerning various categories of available data that might be of value to the Geographic Area.

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*16. [REDACTED] commented that the Career Service Board Examining Panel, of which he is a member, considers the Fitness Report on an individual when reviewing a case. He requested comments from the group as to the defects or advantages of the Fitness Report. [REDACTED] commented that they would like to have the 50 items on personal characteristics eliminated from the Fitness Report. [REDACTED] commented that he has been particularly aware of the lack of an appropriate place for evaluating the individual's progress since the previous fitness report was submitted. [REDACTED] mentioned that the Examining Panel uses the table in the Fitness Report only to get an idea of the general pattern, whether generally low, middle or high, and that one instance had been of an individual who had always had an excellent PER and who received low ratings in several categories on the Fitness Report. [REDACTED] commented that St/A recently brought to his attention a Fitness Report that indicated the individual being rated would need more training before advancing to the next higher grade, and that six weeks later a request was sent in for promotion of this individual. [REDACTED] also reported that he recently attended a meeting in which the Fitness Report was discussed and that a new form is being prepared in which the table is being simplified (only 30 items) and that two new sections will be added--one on various aspects of supervisory ability and one in which to evaluate job performance in each function of the individual's position.